



# HINDU SOCIETY

## HARARE

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### **THE HINDU SOCIETY HARARE BY-LAWS**

#### **1. Executive Committee Meetings & Minutes**

Minutes of the Executive Committee meetings must be regularly sent to all the Trustees. Two joint meetings a year of the Trustees and the Executive Committee must be held to update the Trustees regarding the Society's affairs. At least three Trustees must be present at such meetings. The Trustees may call a meeting with the Executive Committee at any convenient time when they feel the need to do so.

#### **2. Marketing & Advertising**

No advertising matter, pamphlet or circular of any description shall be placed or posted within the precincts of the Society without the consent of the Executive Committee.

#### **3. Non-Smoking, No Alcohol & Vegetarian Campus**

The Hindu Society Premises (situated on Anson Road and Ganges Road) are strictly a Non-Smoking, Alcohol Free and Vegetarian Campuses. As such, no person shall be allowed to smoke any cigarettes or bring or consume any non-vegetarian food or alcoholic beverage into or within the precincts or premises of the Society.

#### **4. All Matters of Correspondence**

All correspondence (be it complaints, suggestions and or improvements) shall be made in writing or by email to the Secretary and shall bear the signature or signatures (in case of written correspondence) and or the full names of the member or members, party to that correspondence. Any unsigned or anonymous correspondence (electronic or written) will not be considered by the Executive Committee. In respect of any suggestions, the Executive Committee shall consider and deliberate on the suggestions, but shall not be bound to act on or implement any such suggestion(s).



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### **5. Notice period of Meeting & or Function**

Members must notify the Secretary not less than 14 days beforehand of any meeting or function to be held on the Society's premises. The Executive Committee is the final arbiter as to whether or not such meeting or function may be held in the Society's buildings or grounds.

### **6. Removal of Hindu Society Written Periodicals**

No member or his or her guest shall remove from the Society premises any book, pamphlet, periodical, newspaper or any other article, which is the property of the Society, except with the special sanction of the Executive Committee. Any person who infringes this by-law or mutilates any such article will be dealt with by the Executive Committee in terms of the Constitution.

### **7. Suspension of Member(s)**

The Executive Committee shall have the power to impose a temporary suspension on any member who is alleged to have committed any offence, for a period of not more than seven (7) days. The Executive Committee shall ensure that disciplinary proceedings are instituted against the member within this period of suspension.

### **8. Religious & Cultural Activities & Festivals**

The Executive Committee shall:

- a) Ensure that Daily Aarti is performed at Omkar Mandir, Anson Road at 6:15am and 6:15pm.
- b) Ensure that Morning Aarti is performed at Omkar Mandir, Cameron Street at 8:00am.

*Aarti timings may be adjusted at the discretion of the Executive Committee, to accommodate other HS Religious and or Cultural Activities coinciding on the same day.*

- c) Celebrate all religious and cultural events, namely Vasant Panchami, Maha Shivratri, Holi & Dhuleti, Ram Navmi, Hanuman Jayanti, Janmashtami, Nand Mahotsav, Ganesh Chaturthi, Navratri, Aatham, Dashera, Sharad Purnima, Diwali.
- d) Organise events and activities for senior citizens & community members.



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### **9. Omkar Mandir Rules**

- a) No items of Food or Drinks are allowed into the Mandir.
- b) Observe appropriate dress code (No Shorts, Miniskirts or Short dresses)
- c) The touching and handling on the Murthis is STRICTLY prohibited.
- d) NO items of Food, Prasad, garlands, or any other items can be placed by the Murthis, Omkar Altar or at any place inside the Mandir.
- e) Loose Flowers can only be placed in the trays provided.
- f) To always observe silence and respectable behaviour in the mandir and during all functions and events.

### **10. Contributions & Donations During Religious Festivities**

Any contributions, or donations of food, prasad, garlands or flowers towards any religious festivals can only be made monetarily in the form of a donation to the Hindu Society. Such monetary donations will be receipted under “Temple Donation Fund” and these proceeds will strictly be used towards inputs and costs associated with the upkeep of the Mandir, both Anson Rd and Cameron St, as well as towards costs associated with all religious festivals.

Exceptions are:

- 1) The Yajman sitting in the pooja, who can provide garlands and one prasad in consultation with the priest.
- 2) Those who have booked for the daily evening aarti at Omkar Mandir Anson Rd, can provide garlands and one prasad in consultation with the priest.

### **11. Hire of the Social Room**

The hiring of the Social Room (room adjacent to the Omkar Mandir) can be used for the following activities, which will be open to the whole Hindu Community or prayer groups:

- Yoga and or Meditation
  - Prayers
  - Music Lessons
  - Bhajans
  - Religious Discourse
- i) No levy or fee shall be levied or charged by the individual holding such classes.
  - ii) Bookings for this room must be made with the Administrator.
  - iii) Activities must be open to all members of the Hindu Community.



### **12. Wedding Ceremonies**

Wedding ceremonies will not be held within the Society's temples (both Omkar Mandir Anson Rd and Omkar Mandir Cameron St). However, the area in front of the main Omkar Mandir steps may be used as a wedding venue subject to the following terms & conditions:

- a) Seating arrangements shall be limited to the paved walkway and car park only. The grass area cannot be used for seating area purposes.
- b) Electrical items will be limited to a power source of no more than 20amps, from a designated socket provided by The Hindu Society.
- c) No Nails, Brackets, or any mounting can be secured onto the tress, walkway paving and any part of the Mandir walls or structure.
- d) Dustbins are put in place to the purpose of collection of litter.
- e) Any form of disposable cups used for the purpose of serving beverages must be disposed of appropriately in the dustbins provided.
- f) Both fountains and surrounding grass areas are strictly Out of Bounds.
- g) The ablution facilities adjacent to the Mandir shall be made available for use. The Hindu Society shall provide a dedicated person, whose job is to ensure the ablution facilities are kept clean.
- h) All set up structures, chairs, sound systems etc must be taken down and removed within 24 hours of the event ending.
- i) The premises must be returned back to Hindu Society in the same condition as it was given for use.
- j) A generator levy shall be charged should you require the use of the generator.
- k) A member of Hindu Society staff shall be present at all times during the setup and dismantling of wedding venue stage to ensure the adherence to the Hindu Society are rules & regulations.



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### **13. Use of Hindu Society Premises, Equipment & Utensils**

The Hindu Society facilities on Anson Road, comprising of the:

- Main Hall,
- Dining Hall,
- Kitchen,
- Grounds,
- Utensils,
- Trestles, Tables & Chairs,

may be hired out by Members of the Hindu Society, for their private functions, free of charge. However, a cost recovery charge will be levied, which will cover the cost of consumables (e.g: cooking gas), labour etc. Such cost recovery charges are decided and or amended by the Executive Committee from time to time.

### **14. Hire of Hindu Society Plates, Utensils, Chairs & Tables Etc.**

- a) The Executive Committee, at its discretion, will identify items that may be hired out to Hindu Society Members for their personal (NON-COMMERCIAL) use and for the purpose of taking such items outside the premises of The Hindu Society.
- b) The use of any utensils and cooking pots can only be for preparing, cooking and serving of vegetarian dishes only.
- c) The fee for the hire of such items shall be based on an Administration Fee as set out and reviewed, from time to time, by the by the Executive Committee.
- d) All such identified items shall be advertised on the notice board, in the Administration building.
- e) This facility is open to only members of the Hindu Society.

### **15. Use of Utensils, Chairs & Tables by Non-Members.**

- a) The use of Plates, Chairs & Tables by Non-Members is ***only permitted strictly at the time of a bereavement or under any extenuating circumstances.***
- b) The request for such use must be made in writing to The Secretary.

*Any infringement of these by-laws may result in the infringing member incurring such penalties as may be imposed by the Executive Committee, acting within the powers conferred by the Constitution.*